



# Office of the Staff Judge Advocate **LEGAL SERVICES** U.S. Army Japan and I Corps (Fwd)

## **Winner of the Army Chief of Staff Award for Excellence in Legal Assistance!**

The Camp Zama Legal Assistance Office has been selected as a winner of the 2010 Army Chief of Staff Award for Excellence in Legal Assistance for the fourth consecutive year! This award recognizes the many great services the Legal Assistance personnel provides the Camp Zama community.

The criteria for nominees include: quality of legal assistance, preventive law programs, responsiveness to clients, professionalism, and innovations. New programs recently initiated by the Legal Assistance Office include the semi-annual visit by immigration personnel from the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to Camp Zama and satellite tax return preparation services provided not only at AAFES, but also for the faculty and staff at Arnn Elementary

School and for personnel working at Sagami General Depot as well.

Another way the Camp Zama Legal Assistance office goes the extra mile in helping clients is by making available the services of a Japanese law firm. The Legal Assistance Office has contracted with a law firm in Tokyo to provide legal services to eligible ID card holders in the Camp Zama community. These Japanese lawyers make regular visits, generally on Tuesday morning, three Tuesdays each month, to meet with clients to answer questions and assist with Japanese legal issues. Common issues that they handle include family law matters, immigration questions, real property issues, inheritance tax matters, and personal injury and insurance questions.

## ***Employment in Japan***

United States Army Japan Regulation 600-50 is very clear regarding the rules for obtaining employment in the Japanese economy. Violation of the regulation may result in UCMJ punishment for service members and loss of SOFA status for civilians.

According to the regulation, one's employment cannot be detrimental to the best interests of the United States and is not contrary to the high standards of conduct desired of personnel during off duty hours.

All USARJ personnel are prohibited from any type of employment that discredits the Army or interferes with, or is not compatible with, the performance of the military or civilian duty. Although discredit is somewhat broad, alcohol establishments are considered discrediting or non-compatible. However, dining facilities that serve

meals in conjunction with alcohol are not prohibited employment establishments.

Many personnel have inquired about placing their child's photograph in popular Japanese magazines. This activity is not prohibited, so long as command approval is obtained. Command approval is not required for teaching English to our host country nationals.

Use of the military postal system to import items for resale is also not permitted. Thus, distributors of the popular mail order system including Amway, Home Interior, or any other popular resale mail system is strictly prohibited. However, ordering directly from the company is permitted. More specifically, you can order directly from Amway, but you may not order any product through the Amway representative, regardless of price.

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate  
USARJ  
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DSN: 315 263-4698  
Commercial: 81-46-407-4698

## WE'RE ON THE WEB

[HTTP://  
WWW.USARJ.ARMY.MIL/  
CMDSTAFFS/SJA/  
LA0.ASPX](http://www.usarj.army.mil/cmdstaffs/sja/la0.aspx)

PROUD TO  
SERVE  
AMERICA'S  
FINEST MEN



If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact the Legal Assistance Office at 263-4698.



## PCS Claims

Unfortunately, PCS moves can result in damage to or loss of the personal property being shipped. Your Camp Zama Claims Office stands ready to assist with those claims to help compensate personnel for those losses as well as to ensure that the carriers are held accountable. However, for this to happen, there are some key things you should do both before and after the move.

Before the move, document what you own – through pictures, video, bills, receipts, appraisals and any other proof of ownership – and note any pre-existing damage or defects on expensive items such as cars or antiques. Be certain not to pack those pictures or receipts and to carry those with you when you PCS so they will be available should you need to file a claim once you reach your destination.

You may also want to consider the purchase of insurance for the move, either through a private insurance company or through the transportation office. If there is loss or damage, the Army Claims office can generally only pay the depreciated value or repair cost to the item, and not the full replacement cost. In addition, there are certain caps on the maximum that can be paid for specific items. For example, the maximum that can be paid for stereo equipment claims is \$1,000 per item and \$4,000 per shipment. However, clients may choose to file directly with the carrier in an effort to try to obtain full replacement cost. Nevertheless, insurance is still a good idea. Remember, however, when considering the purchase of insurance, be sure to pay atten-

tion to the differing levels of insurance available, any deductibles, and the extent of coverage.

Certain items, such as cash or coin collections, should never be packed, and due to their nature, no claims will be paid if they are lost. Small, valuable items, such as jewelry, should be carried with you. If jewelry must be packed with the household goods, make certain that each piece of jewelry is photographed and listed separately on the final inventory. When the movers have finished packing and loading your goods into the truck, they will present an inventory of the household goods and furniture. Check this carefully to ensure that it is accurate and complete. Pre-existing damage to furniture and other items will be noted on this form using a code on the form. If you disagree with the extent or nature of any pre-existing damage listed by the movers, note this disagreement directly on the form in the "Remarks" section, identifying the specific property in question and the reason for the disagreement.

When the movers deliver your household goods, use this inventory to carefully check off each of the listed items and inspect all of your property for damage not already listed. You will be given a pink form (DD Form 1840R) by the movers which you can use to indicate any missing or damaged items. This form does not need to be filled out immediately.

A claimant has 70 days from the date of delivery to notify the local claims office of any loss or damage. For more information, please contact the Claims office at 263-4037 or 263-4698.